

Introduced by Senator WigginsFebruary 24, 2009

An act to amend Section 49600 of the Education Code, relating to educational counseling.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 272, as introduced, Wiggins. Educational counseling.

Existing law authorizes the governing board of any school district to provide a comprehensive educational counseling program for all pupils enrolled in the schools of the district. Existing law requires that educational counseling include academic counseling, in which pupils receive counseling regarding establishment and implementation of educational plans, achievement of proficiency standards, completion of required curriculum, and access to, and success in, higher education, and career and vocational counseling, in which pupils are assisted in planning for the future, becoming aware of their career potential, developing realistic perceptions of work, and relating to the work world.

This bill would state legislative intent relating to the role of school counselors. The bill would require the academic counseling component of educational counseling to also include an individualized review of pupil's academic and department records and of his or her career goals, and the opportunity for a counselor to meet with each pupil and his or her parents or legal guardian to explain the academic progress needed to complete middle or high school, pass the high school exit examination, and be eligible for admission to a 4-year institution of postsecondary education and the availability of career technical education, among other things.

The bill would require the career and vocational counseling component of educational counseling to include identifying personal interests,

skills, and abilities, career planning, course selection, and career transition, and assisting pupils to understand the changing work environment, the effect of work on lifestyle, the relationship between academic achievement and career success, the importance of maximizing career options, the value of participating in career technical education and work-based learning activities and programs, and the need to develop essential employable skills and work habits, among other things.

The bill would require ongoing professional development related to career and vocational counseling to include strategies for pupils pursuing postsecondary, career technical education, multiple pathway, college, and global career opportunities.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
 State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 49600 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 49600. (a) The governing board of any school district may
- 4 provide a comprehensive educational counseling program for all
- 5 pupils enrolled in the schools of the district.
- 6 For purposes of this section, “educational counseling” means
- 7 specialized services provided by a school counselor possessing a
- 8 valid credential with a specialization in pupil personnel services
- 9 who is assigned specific times to directly counsel pupils.
- 10 (b) *It is the intent of the Legislature that school counselors do*
- 11 *all of the following:*
- 12 (1) *Engage with, advocate for, and provide support for all pupils*
- 13 *with respect to learning.*
- 14 (2) *Plan, implement, and evaluate programs to promote the*
- 15 *academic, career, personal, and social development of all pupils.*
- 16 (3) *Use multiple sources of information to monitor and improve*
- 17 *pupil behavior and achievement.*
- 18 (4) *Collaborate and coordinate with school and community*
- 19 *resources.*
- 20 (5) *Promote and maintain a safe learning environment for all*
- 21 *pupils.*
- 22 (6) *Engage in continued development as a professional school*
- 23 *counselor.*
- 24 ~~(b)~~

1 (c) Educational counseling shall include, but not be limited to,
2 all of the following:

3 (1) Academic counseling, in which pupils receive counseling
4 in the following areas:

5 (A) Establishment and implementation, with parental
6 involvement, of the pupil's immediate and long-range educational
7 plans.

8 (B) Optimizing progress towards achievement of proficiency
9 standards.

10 (C) Completion of the required curriculum in accordance with
11 the pupil's needs, abilities, interests, and aptitudes.

12 (D) Academic planning for access and success in higher
13 education programs including advisement on courses needed for
14 admission to public colleges and universities, standardized
15 admissions tests, and financial aid.

16 (E) *Individualized review of the academic and deportment*
17 *records of a pupil.*

18 (F) *Individualized review of the pupil's career goals, and the*
19 *available academic and career technical education opportunities*
20 *and community and workplace experiences available to the pupil*
21 *that may support the pursuit of those goals.*

22 (G) *Opportunity for a counselor to meet with each pupil and,*
23 *if practicable, the parents or legal guardian of the pupil to discuss*
24 *the academic and deportment records of the pupil, his or her*
25 *educational options, the coursework and academic progress needed*
26 *for satisfactory completion of middle or high school, passage of*
27 *the high school exit examination, eligibility for admission to a*
28 *four-year institution of postsecondary education, including the*
29 *University of California and the California State University, and*
30 *the availability of career technical education. That discussion shall*
31 *also address the availability of intensive instruction and services*
32 *as required pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 37254, for up*
33 *to two consecutive academic years after the completion of grade*
34 *12 or until the pupil has passed both parts of the high school exit*
35 *examination, whichever comes first, for those pupils who have not*
36 *passed one or both parts of the high school exit examination by*
37 *the end of grade 12. The educational options discussed at the*
38 *meeting shall include, to the extent these services are available,*
39 *the college preparatory program and career technical education*
40 *programs, including regional occupational centers and programs*

1 *and similar alternatives available to pupils within the school*
2 *district.*

3 *(H) Identification of pupils who are at risk of not graduating*
4 *with the rest of their class, are not earning credits at a rate that*
5 *will enable them to pass the high school exit examination, or do*
6 *not have sufficient training to allow them to fully engage in their*
7 *chosen career.*

8 *(I) In schools that enroll pupils in grades 10 and 12,*
9 *development of a list of coursework and experience necessary to*
10 *assist each pupil in his or her respective grade who has not passed*
11 *one or both parts of the high school exit examination or has not*
12 *satisfied, or is not on track to satisfy, the curricular requirements*
13 *for admission to the University of California and the California*
14 *State University, and to successfully transition to postsecondary*
15 *education or employment.*

16 *(J) In schools that enroll pupils in grade 7, development of a*
17 *list of coursework and experience necessary to assist each pupil*
18 *in grade 7 who is deemed to be at the far-below-basic level in*
19 *English language arts or mathematics pursuant to the California*
20 *Standards Tests administered to pupils in grade 6, to successfully*
21 *transition to high school and meet all graduation requirements,*
22 *including passing the high school exit examination.*

23 *(K) In schools that enroll pupils in grade 7, development of a*
24 *list of coursework and experience necessary to assist each pupil*
25 *in grade 7 to begin to satisfy the curricular requirements for*
26 *admission to the University of California and the California State*
27 *University.*

28 *(L) Provision of a copy of the lists developed pursuant to*
29 *subparagraphs (J) and (K) to a pupil and his or her parent or legal*
30 *guardian, ensuring that the list of coursework and experience is*
31 *part of the cumulative records of a pupil.*

32 *(M) Informing each pupil who has failed to pass one or both*
33 *parts of the high school exit examination of the option of intensive*
34 *instruction and services.*

35 *(N) Development of a list of coursework and experience for a*
36 *pupil enrolled in grade 12 including, in addition to the items*
37 *identified in subparagraphs (H) to (M), inclusive, options for*
38 *continuing his or her education if he or she fails to meet graduation*
39 *requirements. These options shall include, but not be limited to,*
40 *all of the following:*

- 1 (i) *Enrolling in an adult education program.*
- 2 (ii) *Enrolling in a community college.*
- 3 (iii) *Continuing enrollment in the pupil's current school district.*
- 4 (iv) *Continuing to receive intensive instruction and services for*
- 5 *up to two consecutive academic years after completion of grade*
- 6 *12 or until the pupil has passed both parts of the high school exit*
- 7 *examination, whichever comes first.*

8 (O) *Provision of a copy of the list of coursework and experiences*
9 *developed pursuant to subparagraph (N) to the pupil and his or*
10 *her parent or legal guardian, ensuring that the list of coursework*
11 *and experience is part of the cumulative records of a pupil.*

12 (P) *Offering and scheduling an individual conference with each*
13 *pupil in grades 10 and 12 who has failed to pass one or both parts*
14 *of the high school exit examination or has not satisfied, or is not*
15 *on track to satisfy, the curricular requirements for admission to*
16 *the University of California and the California State University*
17 *and to successfully transition to postsecondary education or*
18 *employment, and with each pupil in grade 7 who is deemed to be*
19 *at the far-below-basic level in English language arts or*
20 *mathematics pursuant to the California Standards Tests and is*
21 *unlikely to successfully transition to high school and meet all*
22 *graduation requirements, including passing the high school exit*
23 *examination, and with his or her parent or legal guardian, and a*
24 *school counselor. The individual conference shall be scheduled,*
25 *to the extent feasible, according to the following requirements:*

26 (i) *For a pupil enrolled in grade 7, the conference shall occur*
27 *before January of that school year in which the pupil is enrolled*
28 *in grade 7.*

29 (ii) *For a pupil enrolled in grade 10, the conference shall occur*
30 *between the spring of that school year in which the pupil is enrolled*
31 *in grade 10 and the fall of the following school year in which the*
32 *pupil would be enrolled in grade 11. For a school operating on a*
33 *multitrack, year-round calendar, the conference for a pupil*
34 *enrolled in grade 10 shall occur in the timeframe that is equivalent*
35 *to that specified timeframe for a school operating on a traditional*
36 *calendar.*

37 (iii) *For a pupil enrolled in grade 12, the conference shall occur*
38 *after November of that school year in which the pupil is enrolled*
39 *in grade 12, but before March of the same school year. For a*
40 *school operating on a multitrack, year-round calendar, the*

1 conference for a pupil enrolled in grade 12 shall occur in the
2 timeframe that is equivalent to that specified timeframe for a school
3 operating on a traditional calendar.

4 (Q) Information provided by the school counselor, during the
5 individual conference described in subparagraph (P), to a pupil
6 and his or her parent or legal guardian regarding all of the
7 following:

8 (i) Consequences of not passing the high school exit
9 examination.

10 (ii) Programs, courses, and career technical education options
11 available to the pupil as needed for satisfactory completion of
12 middle or high school.

13 (iii) Cumulative records and transcripts of the pupil.

14 (iv) Results of standardized and diagnostic assessments of the
15 pupil.

16 (v) Remediation strategies, high school courses, and alternative
17 education options available to the pupil, including, but not limited
18 to, informing the pupil of the option to receive intensive instruction
19 and services for up to two consecutive academic years after
20 completion of grade 12 or until the pupil has passed both parts of
21 the high school exit examination, whichever comes first.

22 (vi) Information on postsecondary education and training.

23 (vii) The score of the pupil on the English language arts or
24 mathematics portion of the California Standards Test administered
25 in grade 6, as applicable.

26 (viii) Eligibility requirements, including coursework and test
27 requirements, and the progress of the pupil toward satisfaction of
28 those requirements for admission to four-year institutions of
29 postsecondary education, including the University of California
30 and the California State University.

31 (ix) The availability of financial aid for postsecondary
32 education.

33 (2) Career and vocational counseling, in which pupils are
34 assisted in doing all of the following:

35 (A) Planning for the future, including, but not limited to,
36 identifying personal interests, skills, and abilities, career planning,
37 course selection, and career transition.

38 (B) Becoming aware of ~~their career potential~~ personal
39 preferences and interests that influence educational and
40 occupational exploration, career choice, and career success.

1 (C) Developing realistic perceptions of work, *the changing work*
2 *environment, and the effect of work on lifestyle.*

3 ~~(D) Relating to the work world.~~

4 (D) *Understanding the relationship between academic*
5 *achievement and career success, and the importance of maximizing*
6 *career options.*

7 (E) *Understanding the value of participating in career technical*
8 *education and work-based learning activities and programs,*
9 *including, but not limited to, service learning, regional*
10 *occupational programs and centers, partnership programs, job*
11 *shadowing, and mentoring experiences.*

12 (F) *Understanding the need to develop essential employable*
13 *skills and work habits.*

14 (G) *Understanding the variety of four-year colleges and*
15 *universities, community college vocational and technical*
16 *preparation programs, as well as admission criteria and enrollment*
17 *procedures.*

18 (3) Personal and social counseling, in which pupils receive
19 counseling pertaining to interpersonal relationships for the purpose
20 of promoting the development of their academic abilities, careers
21 and vocations, personalities, and social skills.

22 (d) *Ongoing professional development related to career and*
23 *vocational counseling shall include strategies for pupils pursuing*
24 *postsecondary, career technical education, multiple pathway,*
25 *college, and global career opportunities.*

26 ~~(e)~~

27 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting
28 persons participating in an organized advisory program approved
29 by the governing board of a school district, and supervised by a
30 school district counselor, from advising pupils pursuant to the
31 organized advisory program.

32 ~~(f)~~

33 (f) Notwithstanding any provisions of this section to the contrary,
34 any person who is performing these counseling services pursuant
35 to law authorizing the performance thereof in effect before January
36 1, 1987, shall be authorized to continue to perform those services
37 on and after that date without compliance with the additional
38 requirements imposed by this section.

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